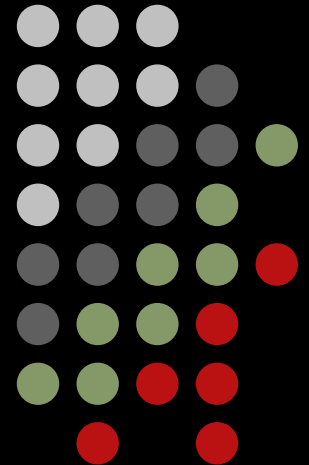


Strategic Plan for Asthma in California

The California Asthma Public Health Initiative
California Department of Health Services

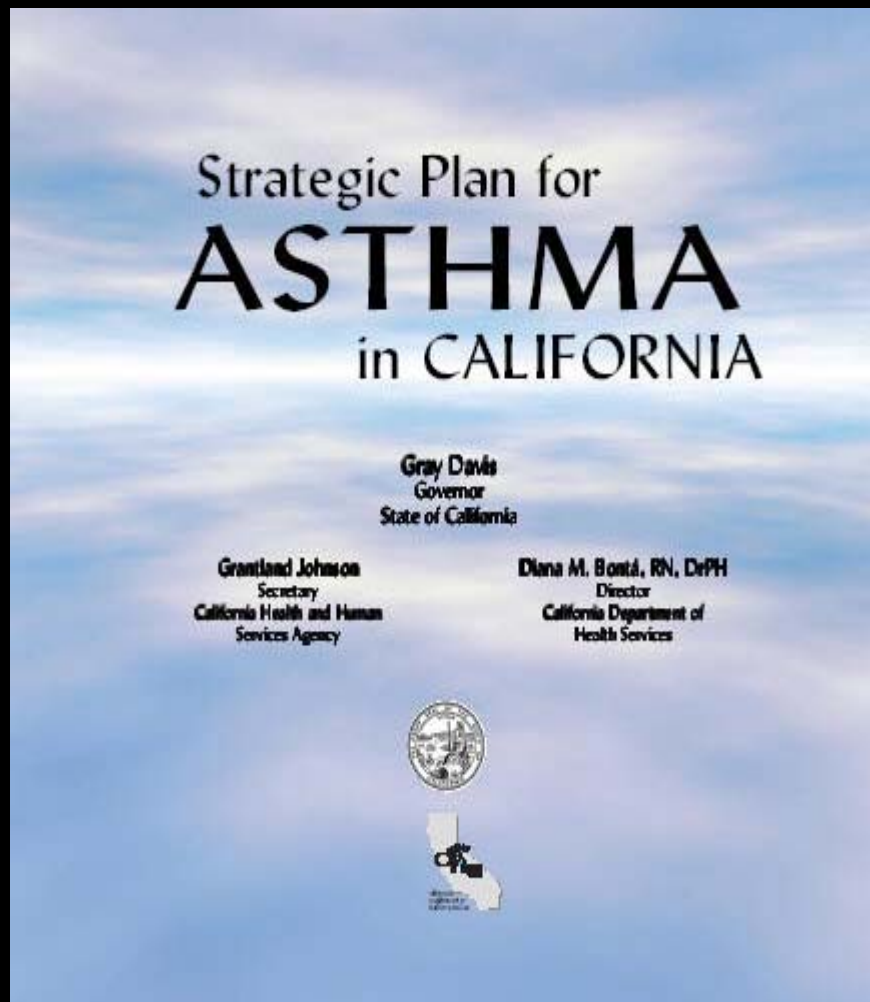
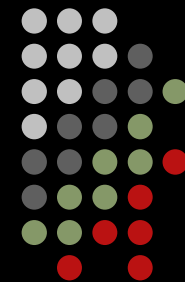


Asthma as a Public Health Priority



- **Highly prevalent condition—especially in children**
- **Significant preventable morbidity and mortality**
- **Large economic impact**
- **Effective interventions underutilized**
- **Significant disparities in treatment and outcome by race/ethnicity and income level**

Strategic Plan for Asthma in California





Development of the Plan

- **Sponsored by California Department of Health Services**
- **Funded by Prevention 2000 Block Grant and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
- **Based upon:**
 - “Asthma in California: Laying the Foundation for a Statewide Strategy” --DHS in 1998
 - “Action Against Asthma” --US Dept. of Health and Human Services in 2000
 - Healthy People 2010 Objective Goals for Asthma published in 2000 by US DHHS
- **Completed in 2001 and approved in Fall 2002 by DHS Director, Diana Bontá**



Contributors

- Asthma Strategic Planning Workgroup and California Asthma Advisory Committee – initial meetings in Fall 1999
- Over 50 individuals representing Community Asthma Coalitions, Private Foundations, DHS, CDE, Schools and School Nurses, Primary Care Providers, Allergists, Pulmonologists, Pharmacists, Health Plans, Cal EPA, and Academic Institutions



Purpose of the Plan

- Created for use both within DHS and by non-governmental organizations throughout the state
- Provide a framework for evaluating current efforts to address asthma
- Identify 5-year priorities in asthma education, management, surveillance, prevention, policy, and funding
- Guide development of local strategies that target priority areas
- Highlight the need for collaboration and shared information and resources



Ultimate Goals of the Plan

Through implementation of effective asthma strategies and policies we will:

- Increase public and policymaker awareness of asthma
- Improve the quality of life for those affected by asthma
- Reduce preventable asthma morbidity and mortality
- Eliminate disparities in asthma treatment and outcomes affecting both minority and low income populations
- Reduce the significant economic impact of asthma



Background

- Asthma in California
 - Morbidity, mortality, disparities in high risk groups
 - Economic impact
- Overview of current knowledge
 - Surveillance
 - Etiologies
 - Management and Guidelines



Background

- **Barriers to effective management**
 - **Noncompliance with guidelines by providers**
 - **Inadequate diagnosis and under use of controller meds**
 - **Inadequate patient education**
 - **Limited access to care (insurance, transportation, language,...)**
 - **Indoor and outdoor air quality issues**
 - **Other psychosocial and socioeconomic factors**



5 Key Goals of the Plan

- Research, Epidemiology, and Evaluation
- Education
- Treatment and Management
- Secondary Prevention
- Policy

Research, Epidemiology, and Evaluation Goal Statement



Conduct etiologic, applied, and translation research including descriptive epidemiology, to develop and implement effective asthma prevention and management services.

Research, Epidemiology, & Evaluation Objectives



- **Improve the quality (accuracy, utility, timeliness) of surveillance information**
 - **Prevalence**
 - **Morbidity**
 - **Mortality**
 - **Quality of care measures**
- **Conduct research studies**
 - **Clarify epidemiology**
 - **Investigate risks of environmental exposures**
 - **Increase knowledge on utilization (HMOs, etc)**
- **Identify technical assistance needs to improve through collaboration**

Education Goal Statement



Improve the understanding and management of asthma as both a personal and public health issue for people with asthma and their families, policy makers, and the general public.



Education Objectives

- Improve the development, availability, and dissemination of linguistically and culturally appropriate information about asthma
- Promote evaluation & dissemination of effective interventions
- Implement targeted education to policymakers and decision makers
- Collaborate with the California Department of Education to develop and implement asthma standards and training in public schools

Treatment and Management Goal Statement



Optimize the diagnosis, treatment, and management of asthma in California by adherence to the current National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute's (NHLBI) asthma guidelines.

Treatment and Management Objectives



- Promote adherence by clinicians to expert guidelines on the diagnosis and management of asthma through effective education programs, systems change, and unique interventions
- Improve the ability to identify, intervene, and monitor patients whose current asthma care is inadequate
- Achieve written management plans in at least 75% of persons with asthma

Treatment and Management Objectives



- **Achieve annual influenza vaccination in at least 60% of persons with asthma**
- **Increase the proportion of persons with asthma that receive appropriate education on self management**
- **Reduce rates of asthma-related hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and deaths.**
- **Ensure the availability of prescribed asthma medications to children with asthma in the school setting**

Secondary Prevention

Goal Statement



Identify opportunities to reduce exposure to asthma triggers (allergens and irritants) in the home, preschool, school, workplace, and outdoor environment to prevent asthma episodes or reduce their severity.

Secondary Prevention Objectives

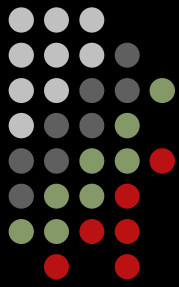


- **Increase the implementation of secondary control measures in the homes of persons with asthma**
- **Develop and implement standards to reduce allergen and irritant exposures in child care, preschool, and school settings**
- **Reduce the incidence of occupational asthma by 33%**
- **Collaborate with Cal EPA, the EPA, and other agencies to develop and implement environmental policies to reduce exposures to allergens and irritants**

Policy Goal Statement



Advocate and support policies that promote asthma friendly communities, especially those that eliminate the disproportionate burden of asthma for people living in poverty and people of color.



Policy Objectives

- **Improve the quality of coverage for uninsured and underinsured individuals and populations with asthma**
- **Establish policies and funding streams to sustain and disseminate effective community asthma interventions—especially in high risk populations**
- **Establish infrastructure within DHS to continue asthma surveillance, prevention, and control programs**



Policy Objectives

- **Develop improved coordination and collaboration on asthma programs within DHS and other State agencies**
- **Promote “asthma health assessment” within the California Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program**
- **Assist local health departments in the development and funding of asthma programs**

Elements of Successful Strategic Plan Implementation



- **Recognition that Plan's objectives are not comprehensive**
- **Development of opportunities for DHS and state and local asthma organizations to collaborate**
- **Creation of opportunities for State agencies to coordinate and partner on asthma programs and policies**
- **Establishment and maintenance of high level governmental and non-governmental support**
- **Development of an evaluation protocol to assist in gauging progress and making necessary changes**



Future Activities

- Join with local efforts on a uniform media messaging plan
- Increase collaboration with local asthma coalitions and health departments to support local priorities
- Partner with CDE on revised asthma school standards and asthma training for school personnel
- Creation of California Interagency Asthma Interest Group to develop and coordinate State asthma interventions
- Planned participation in a State Legislative Hearing on asthma to be convened in early 2003

Contact information



The California Asthma Public Health Initiative

dnunez@dhs.ca.gov

Or

www.dhs.ca.gov/asthma

Research, Epidemiology, and Evaluation



- Current State Activities
 - Enhanced statewide asthma surveillance (BRFSS, Healthy Kids Survey, hospital and emergency department visit data)
 - Enhanced occupational asthma surveillance
 - Evaluation of current projects (Childhood Asthma Intervention, California Asthma Among the School Aged)



Education

- Current State Activities
 - Development and maintenance of an internet-based resource guide of culturally and linguistically diverse asthma materials including:
 - Management and treatment guidelines and tools
 - Public education materials on asthma and secondary prevention strategies
 - Contact information for local coalitions and advocacy groups



Education

- Current State Activities
 - Collaboration with California Research Bureau on recent legislative tour on asthma
 - Collaboration with California Department of Education on development of revised asthma standards and planned asthma training for school personnel

Treatment and Management



- Current State Activities
 - Evaluation of current programs in clinical quality improvement targeting child and at-risk populations
 - Planned dissemination of core asthma educational materials and management tools
 - Collaboration with Medical Managed Care Division to improve current quality measures for asthma care
 - Evaluation of Asthma Treatment Services (ATS) program and CHDP asthma assessment program

Secondary Prevention



- Current State Activities
 - Integration of secondary prevention measures into current asthma programs and State materials
 - Completing evaluation of childcare and preschool environments with regard to asthma care and environmental exposures
 - Increasing collaboration and partnership with Cal EPA to prioritize objectives and strategies

Policy

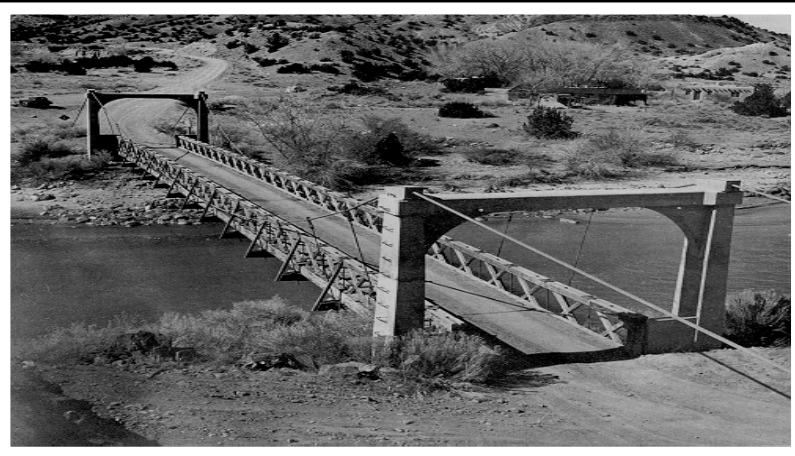


- Current State Activities
 - Creation of California Interagency Asthma Interest Group to develop and coordinate asthma interventions
 - Increasing advocacy for implementation of asthma friendly school policies
 - Planned participation in a State Legislative Hearing on asthma to be convened in January or February of 2003

Moving out of Silos...



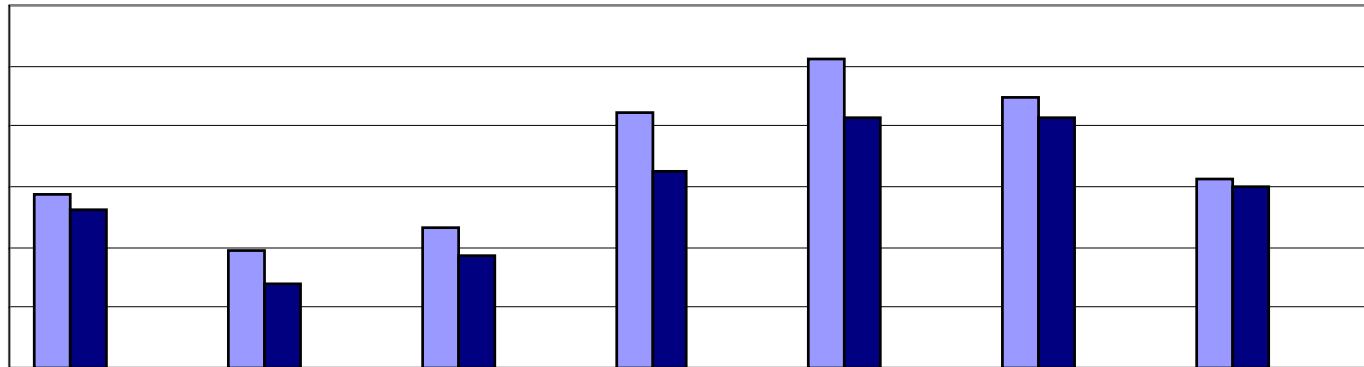
...and Building Bridges



California Asthma Statistics: Lifetime Asthma Prevalence by Age



California Asthma Statistics: Lifetime Asthma Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity



California Asthma Statistics: Hospitalization Rates

